

## Physicians, researchers recognized during CMA award presentations at annual meeting

Jill Rafuse

**Résumé :** Lors de sa 127<sup>e</sup> Assemblée annuelle, tenue à la mi-août à Montréal, l'AMC a accordé à 36 médecins le statut de membres émérites et a rendu hommage à deux chercheurs canadiens et à un médecin québécois. Le Dr Herbert Jasper, de Westmount (Québec), a reçu la plus haute distinction, soit le Prix F.N.G. Starr, en reconnaissance de sa recherche neuroscientifique de pointe. La Médaille de service de l'AMC a été décernée au Dr Augustin Roy, président de la Corporation professionnelle des médecins du Québec, pour les contributions qu'il a apportées tout au long de sa carrière aux organisations médicales. La Médaille d'honneur de l'AMC a été remise au Dr Michael Smith, de Vancouver, lauréat d'un prix Nobel.

Two prominent Canadian researchers — Nobel laureate Dr. Michael Smith and internationally acclaimed neuroscientist Dr. Herbert Jasper — and Dr. Augustin Roy, registrar of Quebec's medical-licensing body, were recognized for their outstanding contributions to science and medicine during the CMA's General Council meeting in Montreal in August. The 127th annual meeting also saw the presentation of senior-member status to 36 physicians from 10 different CMA divisions.

Presentation of the awards took place during a ceremony at which Dr. Bruno L'Heureux, a general practitioner from Laval, Que., was installed as CMA president for the 1994-95 term.

The 1994 recipient of the CMA's highest honour, the F.N.G. Starr Award, was Dr. **Herbert Henri Jasper** of Westmount, Que., professor emeritus and honorary consultant in neuroscience at the Université de Montréal. An American-born physi-

cian who became a Canadian citizen in 1943, Jasper has won international acclaim for ground-breaking research in neuroscience that opened the door to a new life for people with epilepsy.

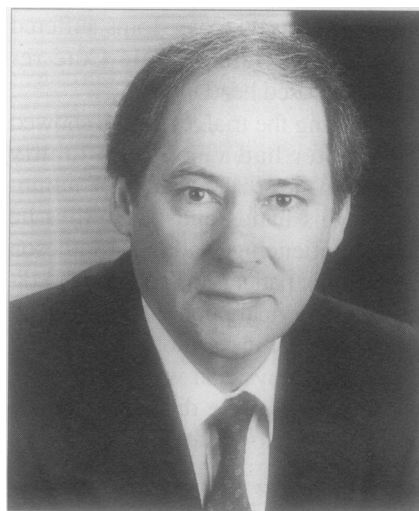
A graduate of University of Iowa and the Université de Paris, Jasper began his professional career as an instructor in psychology. Later, during his medical training at McGill University, he was associate professor in the Department of Neurology and Neurosurgery, and for more than a decade was a professor of neurophysiology and director of the Medical Research Council Group in Neurological Sciences at the Université de Montréal.

The work that benefited epileptic patients came from his research involving electroencephalography. Jasper investigated the fundamental aspects of brain function and laid the foundation for current knowledge about epilepsy, collaborating first with Dr. Wilder Penfield and later with K.A.C. Elliot.

On the international stage, Jasper has held office with the US Public Health Service Task Force on Basic Research in Epilepsy, the Inter-

national Brain Research Organization of UNESCO, the Society for Neuroscience, the Research Advisory Committee on Epilepsy of the National Institutes of Health and the World Health Organization Advisory Committee on Neurosciences.

Last year Jasper, the first recipient of the annual Jasper Prize and Medal of the American Electroencephalographic Society, became the first Canadian to earn the Distinguished Senior Award of the American Epilepsy Society and the Milken Family Medical Foundation. He has been honoured by the Society for Neuroscience for outstanding contributions to his field, and by the Royal Society of Canada for sustained excellence in medical research. He was the charter president of the American Electroencephalographic Society and the International Federation of Societies for Electroencephalography and Clinical Neurophysiology.



**Dr. Augustin Roy**

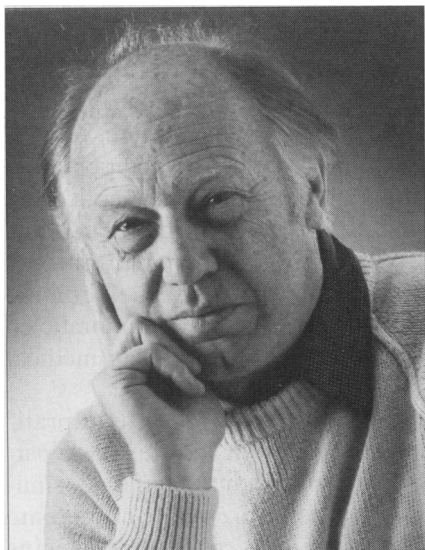
*Jill Rafuse is associate editor in CMAJ's news and features section.*

Dr. **Augustin Roy**, who is well known throughout Quebec and across Canada for his work in medical administration, is 1994 recipient of the CMA Medal of Service, which recognizes exceptional and outstanding contributions to the advancement of health care in Canada.

A 1954 medical graduate of Université Laval, Roy worked briefly in general practice and as a physician for the Iron Ore Company in Schefferville, Que., before attending the Université de Montréal in 1958 to study public health and health administration.

In 1958 he began a career in administrative medicine, first in Saint-Hyacinthe and later in Montreal. In 1963 he joined the Collège des médecins et chirurgiens de Québec, which later became the Corporation professionnelle des médecins du Québec, as assistant registrar; the following year he became the registrar, a position he has held since. He has been president of the corporation since 1974.

Since 1967, Roy has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Quebec Medical Association, and since 1969 has been a member of the CMA's General Council. He has served on the Motor Vehicle Insurance Board of Quebec, the Quebec Society of Medicine and Law, the Canadian Consultative Committee of Physicians for Social Responsibility,



**Dr. Michael Smith**

and the Advisory Committee of the Community Centre for Nuclear Disarmament and Community Health. He has also served as president of the Medical Council of Canada and president of the Federation of Medical Licensing Authorities of Canada. His involvement in more than 100 health care conferences has made him widely known in his home province and throughout the country.

The CMA Medal of Honour, granted in recognition of personal contributions to the advancement of medical research and education, health care organization and public education, was awarded to Dr. **Michael Smith** of Vancouver, BC, winner of the 1993 Nobel Prize for chemistry (*Can Med Assoc J* 1994; 150: 1316-1319).

Upon graduating in organic chemistry from the University of Manchester, England, in 1956, Smith worked for 4 years at the British Columbia Research Council. After a year at the University of Wisconsin, he returned to BC in 1961 as head of the Vancouver laboratory of the Fisheries Research Board of Canada. In 1966 he became affiliated with the University of British Columbia's (UBC) Department of Biochemistry in a research effort financed by the Medical Research Council of Canada.

Smith pioneered the use of synthetic oligonucleotides to effect site-specific mutations in isolated genes, a technique used widely in molecular biology because it allows gene sequences to be altered in a designated fashion. The result of this research has given rise to the new field of protein engineering, and may lead to the development of new medicines.

In the mid-1980s Smith left research for administration, and became the director of UBC's new Biotechnology Laboratory.

Recognition of his research climaxed in 1993 when he was awarded the Nobel Prize. He donated his \$500 000 award to an endowment that will support postgraduate research into schizophrenia; it also will promote science-awareness programs that Smith hopes will lead to more

medical research and encourage young people, especially women, to consider research careers.

During the annual meeting, senior memberships in the CMA were awarded to 36 physicians. These awards mark longtime service to the medical community and the public, and are based on recommendations from CMA divisions.

The 1994 recipients from the Atlantic provinces are Dr. **Augustus Taylor Rowe**, Don Mills, Ont., nominated by Newfoundland; Dr. **William Mason**, Charlottetown; Dr. **Bernard J. Steele** and Dr. **William Carl Tupper**, both of Halifax; and New Brunswick physicians Dr. **Ralph Allanach**, Fredericton, and Dr. **Matthew Swan**, Campbellton.

New senior members from Quebec are Dr. **Raymond Amyot**, Joliette; Dr. **Marcel Boily**, Trois-Rivières; Dr. **David Brunet**, Beaconsfield; Dr. **Jacques Crépeau**, Sherbrooke; Dr. **Normand DaSilva** and Dr. **Joseph Stratford**, both of Montreal; Dr. **Raymond-Marie Guay**, Lévis; and Dr. **Jean Sirois**, Hull.

Ontario's new senior members are Dr. **Douglas Caldwell**, Don Mills; Dr. **Campbell Dobbin**, Willowdale; Dr. **Henry Gasmann**, Deep River; Dr. **Lazarus Jacob Loeb**, Fort Worth, Tex.; Dr. **Richard Moulton**, Victoria, BC; and Dr. **George Walker**, Sudbury.

New senior members from the Prairie provinces are Dr. **James Menzies**, Morden, Man.; Dr. **Frank Pearson**, Selkirk, Man.; Dr. **Michael Gormley**, North Battleford, Sask.; Dr. **Robert Johnston**, Regina, Sask.; Dr. **Hugh Gallie** and Dr. **Charles Taylor**, both of Calgary, Alta.; Dr. **Lloyd Johnston**, Lethbridge, Alta.; Dr. **Burns Larson**, Cardston, Alta.; and Dr. **John St. Clair**, Edmonton, Alta.

BC physicians who were named senior members are Dr. **David Bolton**, Burnaby; Dr. **Pierre d'Estrube** and Dr. **Frances Mary Forrest-Richards**, both of Victoria; Dr. **Robert Hefelfinger**, Coquitlam; Dr. **William Ibott** and Dr. **Ronald McAdam**, both of West Vancouver; and Dr. **Alexander Mandeville**, Penticton. ■